

# Staff Report



To Committee of the Whole  
Service Area Public Services  
Date Tuesday, April 7, 2026  
Subject **Proposal for Amendments to Taxi Tariff (Appendix A)**

## Recommendation

1. That Council directs staff to amend City of Guelph By-law (2018) 20272 (Taxicab) to reflect a 6.7 per cent increase in taxicab rates, effective April 1, 2026 or at the time of the City's meter check.

## Executive Summary

### Purpose of Report

To provide Council with information supporting a recommended increase in taxicab fare rates of 6.7 per cent due to changing economic circumstances, increased costs, and a joint request from representatives of Guelph's taxicab companies for a fare increase.

### Key Findings

The City regulates the taxicab industry in accordance with City of Guelph By-law (2018) 20272. Two taxicab companies operating in the City of Guelph, Red Top Taxi and Canadian Cab have requested a fare increase. These taxicab companies have not requested a fare increase since 2022.

Economic circumstances have changed quite substantially since 2022; fuel and operating costs have increased, prompting the taxicab companies to request an increase in fare rates. The request is for a 6.7 per cent increase in fare rates.

### Strategic Plan Alignment

This report supports higher tariff rates that can be justified to cover rising operating costs (fuel, wages) and reduce pressure on the tax base.

### Future Guelph Theme

People and Economy

### Future Guelph Objectives

People and Economy: Grow Guelph's economy

### Financial Implications

This change will result in nominal financial implications to the Operations budget due to the cost to recheck the taxicab meters. Costs not budgeted for would include

seals to lock the taxicab meters and staff time needed to conduct the resealing.

---

## Report

Two taxicab companies that are licensed in the City of Guelph, Red Top Taxi and Canadian Cab have recently requested a fare increase. Elected representatives from each company contacted the City requesting an increase in the taxicab fares. In 2022, Council approved a 6.7 per cent increase in taxicab fares, effective July 1, 2022, in response to rising fuel and operating costs.

The representatives have made a joint submission requesting an increase of 6.7 per cent from the current fares. The chart below represents the current and requested fares:

	Drop Fee	Fee per distance	Wait time per hour
Present Fares	\$ 3.20	\$ 2.60	\$ 34.00
Proposed Fares	\$ 3.41	\$ 2.77	\$ 36.28

The requested increase from the taxicab companies is a conservative and modest increase. In consideration of the extended time since the last fare increase, and the competitive rates as compared to other municipalities, staff recommend that Council approve the request received from the taxicab companies for an increase in taxicab fares.

Staff have had preliminary discussions with the taxicab representatives on whether the City should continue to regulate taxicab fare rates given the industry's competitive nature and the number of ride sharing companies who provide this service. Unfortunately, the taxicab representatives are not prepared to transition to de-regulation of fare rates or set a higher maximum fare rate at this time.

Correspondence has been sent to the licensed taxi owner with Guelph Taxi informing them of this report.

## Financial Implications

This change will result in nominal financial implications to the Operations budget due to the cost to recheck the taxicab meters. Costs not budgeted for would include seals to lock the taxicab meters and staff time needed to conduct the resealing. The cost would be \$1,760, based on 80 taxicab meter seals and 32 hours of staff time. These costs can be absorbed within the Council approved 2026 Operations Department budget.

## Consultations and Engagement

Mr. Mohammad Iqbar – President, Red Top Taxi

Mr. Steve Younger – President, Canadian Cab

## Attachments

None.

## Departmental Approval

None.

**Report Author**

Kristie Di Cristofaro, Supervisor of Bylaw Compliance and Security

**This report was approved by:**

Doug Godfrey  
General Manager  
Public Services  
519-822-1260 extension 2520  
doug.godfrey@guelph.ca

**This report was recommended by:**

Colleen Clack-Bush  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Public Services  
519 822-1260 extension 2588  
colleen.clack-bush@guelph.ca